

CSC 495.002 – Lecture 1

Course Introduction

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Basics

- Dr. Oz
- Email: rkafali@ncsu.edu
- Moodle for announcements and assignments
- Course website: <https://ozgurkafali.github.io/courses/ncsu/csc495>
- Hours: MW 11:45AM-1:00PM
- Location: EB2 1226
- No TA

Grading

- 30% – Individual homework assignments (4 best grades out of 5 assignments)
- 30% – Two group case studies (analysis and in class presentation)
- 40% – One group project (project report and in class presentation)
- No midterm or final

Homeworks

- Goals:
 - Learn to do critical reviews on privacy papers
 - Extract privacy requirements/concerns from text-based scenarios
 - Investigate tools for privacy risk mitigation
 - Review TED talks on privacy
- Individual assignments
- When submitting any report:
 - Use your own words when describing the papers or other material you find online
 - Do not borrow words from the authors (unless you are referring to a specific technical term, e.g., information disclosure)

Case Studies

- In class exercises
- Investigate privacy incidents
 - Work individually and in groups
 - Aggregate and analyze results
 - Present findings
- Play a privacy card game (if everything goes well . . .)
 - Play individually
 - Play in groups
 - Analyze strategies

Projects

- Goals:
 - Give you experience (both research and development) on a specific topic related to privacy
 - Collaboration within group members as well as among groups
 - Work with deadlines, prepare deliverables, present work done
- Work in groups of 2–3
- A project can be chosen by multiple groups
- Encourage publication from good projects

Research Interests

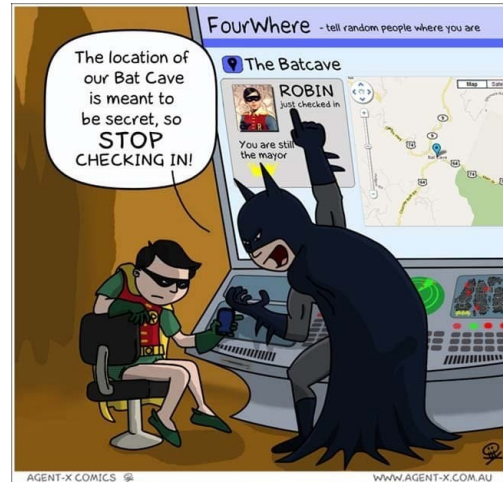
- Artificial intelligence
- Multiagent systems
- Computational logic
- Online social networks (OSN)
- Strategic games

Topics

- Web/Online Social Networks Privacy
- Artificial Intelligence for Privacy
- Usable Privacy
- Privacy Perceptions
- Misc Topics

Topics: Web/Online Social Networks Privacy

- Growing privacy concerns in online social networks
- Sharing behaviors of users
- Common violations and regret scenarios
- Methods for targeted advertising and how to mitigate those
- K-anonymity for ensuring privacy of datasets



Foursquare app: <https://www.buzzfeed.com/ashleyperez/creepers-r-us>

Topics: Artificial Intelligence for Privacy

- Privacy aware autonomous systems
- Design and maintenance of autonomous systems using AI techniques such as negotiation and argumentation
- Frameworks for elicitation, modeling, and verification of privacy requirements
- Privacy norms
- Privacy breaches as norm violations

Topics: Usable Privacy

- Designs for usable privacy interfaces
- Privacy nudges for warning users of potential privacy risks
- Semantic analysis of privacy policies

Topics: Privacy Perceptions

- Studies and surveys regarding human mental models about privacy concerns
- Differences among cultures
- Longitudinal studies about changes in privacy perceptions

Misc Topics

- Crowdsourcing privacy policies
- Mobile application privacy
- Privacy measurement

Learning Outcomes

- Learn various evaluation methods: Empirical, formal, case studies
- Understand personal identifiable information in databases and techniques to anonymize and protect such information
- Describe attacks against anonymized datasets
- Understand privacy risks when sharing personal data online and design mechanisms for mitigating such risks
- Describe privacy requirements and AI techniques for designing privacy-aware autonomous systems
- Design usable privacy interfaces and tools that balance privacy preserving and user functionality
- Identify and describe important elements of privacy policies and regulations
- Understand human attitudes to and perceptions of privacy

Outcomes (For the Instructor)

- Convert some of you into the world of academics
- Assignments prepared accordingly to give you research experience
- Even if you choose a developer path, you will be able to develop software with privacy awareness

Lectures

- Look at a common and important privacy problem
- Start with problem description
- Look at real world applications/cases and potential implications
- Learn about sample solutions
- Short exercises throughout
- Collaboratively analyze relevant incident(s) from the Privacy Incidents Database (Bring your laptop)
 - 1 Think individually
 - 2 Discuss with your neighbor
 - 3 Class discussion

Privacy

- Privacy is very important . . . whatever it is
- J. J. Thomson: “Perhaps the most striking thing about the right to privacy is that nobody seems to have any clear idea of what it is”
- A good or a bad thing? A right or a preference?

- Physical privacy:
 - “Right to be left alone”
 - “Freedom from unauthorized intrusion”
- Privacy is very broad
- Scope it to *data privacy*

Kieron O'Hara. The Seven Veils of Privacy. IEEE Internet Computing, 20(2):86–91, 2016

Oops, They Did It Again

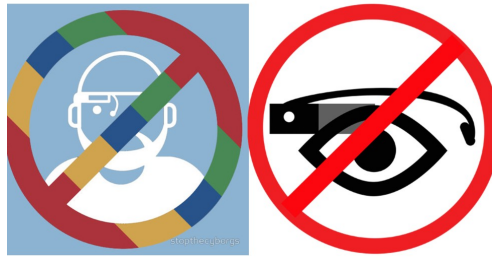


- 13 hospital workers fired in LA for snooping in Britney Spears' medical records
 - HIPAA prohibits accessing medical records without a valid reason
 - Violation: Just because she's a celebrity is not a valid reason
- How to detect such violations?
 - Role-based access control
 - Log access
 - Are those enough?

<http://www.avant.org.au/news/20160622-improper-access-of-medical-records/>

<http://articles.latimes.com/2008/mar/15/local/me-britney15>

How the Camera Doomed Google Glass



- Early adopters
 - Usability: “It was not very useful for very much”
 - Privacy: “Disturb people around me that I have this thing”
- Mitigation: Use the same way we use sunglasses – usually taken off when we’re with people

<http://www.cnn.com/2013/12/10/tech/mobile/negative-google-glass-reactions/index.html>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2015/01/how-the-camera-doomed-google-glass/384570/>

Target Discovers Pregnancy Before Parents



- Identify 25 products that indicate potential pregnancy, send coupons accordingly
- Dad goes to store to show coupons sent to her teenage daughter
- Mitigation: Mix in ads that pregnant women never buy, so baby ads look random

<http://www.businessinsider.com/the-incredible-story-of-how-target-exposed-a-teen-girls-pregnancy-2012-2>

Privacy Definitions

- Numerous examples
- Let's try to come up with some definitions

Privacy Incidents

- An instance of accidental or unauthorized collection, use or exposure of sensitive information about an individual
- An event that creates the perception that unauthorized collection, use or exposure of sensitive information about an individual may happen

Data Collection, Storage, and Usage

- Collection: What personal information is collected by organizations?
- Storage: How do organizations store personal information? Is it kept secure?
- Usage: How do organizations use personal information? Whom do they share it with? Do they make users aware, e.g., ask for consent?

Contextual Integrity

- Ensuring appropriate information flows respectful of social norms in a given context
- Norm: Patient health information should not be disclosed
- Context:
 - During a consultation, it's appropriate for a patient to disclose health information to the doctor
 - Doctor may consult a colleague about the patient to exchange diagnosis
- How about doctor disclosing health information to a doctor friend at a party? Same action, different setting

Normative Privacy

- Norms, expectations, conventions, regulations
- When a crime victim tells police about perpetrator, does it violate criminal's privacy?
- In this case, the norm works against privacy, for good social reasons

- Alice wants personal space
 - Puts a fence around her house
 - Few people cross it
 - Although there's nothing physical to stop them
- Patient consultation example: Alice expects confidentiality (her health information won't leave the medical system)

Kieron O'Hara. The Seven Veils of Privacy. IEEE Internet Computing, 20(2):86–91, 2016

Sociotechnical Systems

- People and software

- Technical and social considerations meet

- Interactions
 - User use software
 - Users interact with each other
 - Software components communicate with each other

Laws and Sanctions

- Norms can be turned into laws or regulations
- Not only conventional but also compulsory
- Sanctions would apply in case of violations
- Privacy law: Organizations' practice with personal data

Kieron O'Hara. The Seven Veils of Privacy. IEEE Internet Computing, 20(2):86–91, 2016

Privacy Engineering

- Integrating privacy solutions into everyday engineering practices
- Data protection requirements
- Beyond data breaches: Perceptions matter too

Seda Gürses and Jose M. del Alamo. Privacy Engineering: Shaping an Emerging Field of Research and Practice. IEEE Security & Privacy, 14(2):40–46, 2016

Transitional Privacy

- Privacy through friends
- Cannot always control what other people do

Typical Privacy Problems

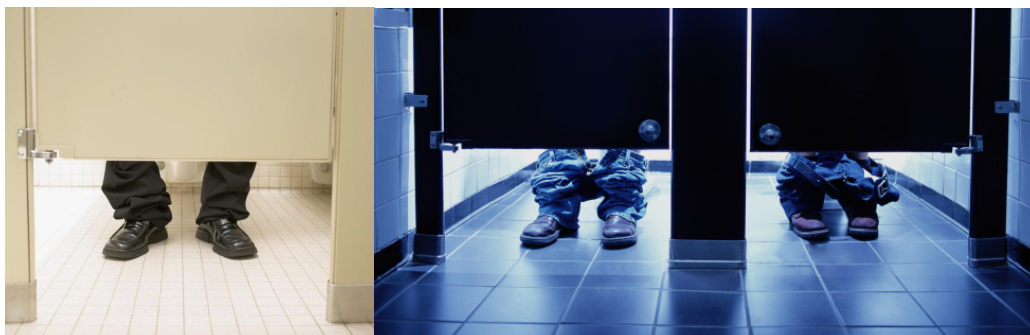
- Identify common privacy problems
- Analyze sample solutions

Inference



http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/11/13/smartphones-restrooms-bed-use-survey_n_4266701.html

Inference Possible



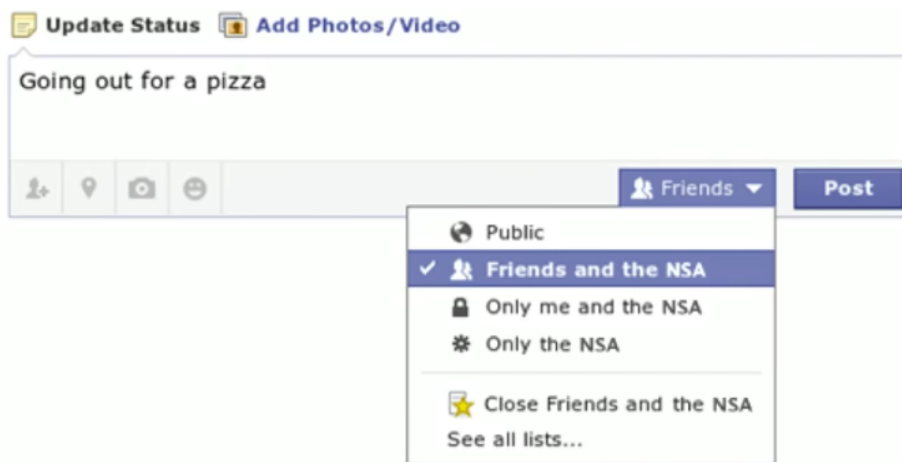
- The guy on the left is significantly different from the others
- When you see him outside (new information), you might recognize

Anonymization of Datasets

	Non-Sensitive			Sensitive
	Zip code	Age	Nationality	Condition
1	130**	< 30	*	AIDS
2	130**	< 30	*	Heart Disease
3	130**	< 30	*	Viral Infection
4	130**	< 30	*	Viral Infection
5	1485*	≥ 40	*	Cancer
6	1485*	≥ 40	*	Heart Disease
7	1485*	≥ 40	*	Viral Infection
8	1485*	≥ 40	*	Viral Infection
9	130**	3*	*	Cancer
10	130**	3*	*	Cancer
11	130**	3*	*	Cancer
12	130**	3*	*	Cancer

- Provide researchers with useful data
- Protect user privacy by anonymizing columns and rows

Sharing Content



Unintended Disclosure



- Intrusion, embarrassment
- Unintended audience

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/senator-pat-roberts-unexpected-ringtone-frozen-let-it-go/>

Sharing vs Revealing

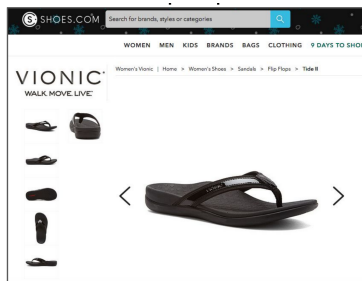
- To whom your shared content will reach
- “If I cannot shout it out in the middle of downtown, I’d not say it online”
- Differential privacy: You may share, but not reveal anything

Regrets



- Regrettable actions, e.g., send email to wrong recipients
- How to avoid those

Targeted Advertising



Look at shoes at store

They come with you to the news

- How does it happen?
- How can you avoid it?

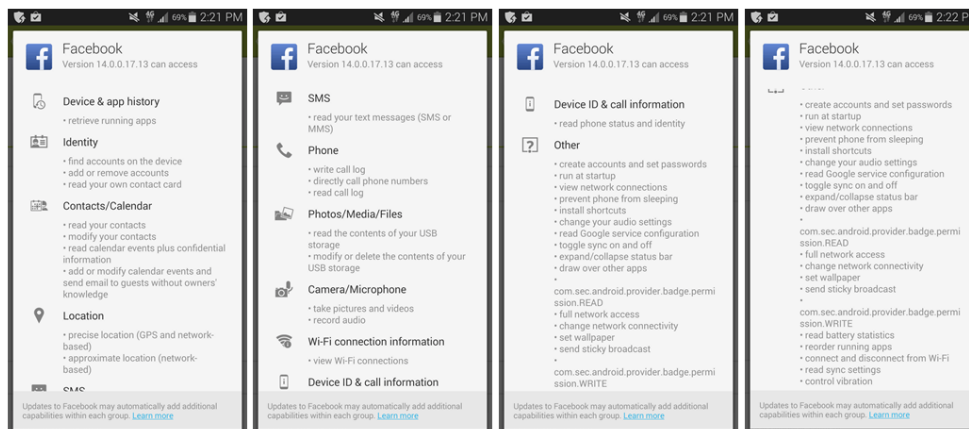
Multiparty Privacy: Argumentation



- After tsunami disaster
- Arguments for/against sharing the picture
 - Not share: Hand gestures not appropriate
 - Share: Shows difficult situation of survivors, would encourage people to help

Fogués et al. Sharing Policies in Multiuser Privacy Scenarios: Incorporating Context, Preferences, and Arguments in Decision Making. ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction, 24(1):5:1-5:29, 2017

AI for Privacy: Negotiation



- Runtime configuration of app permissions
- Negotiation between the user and the app provider

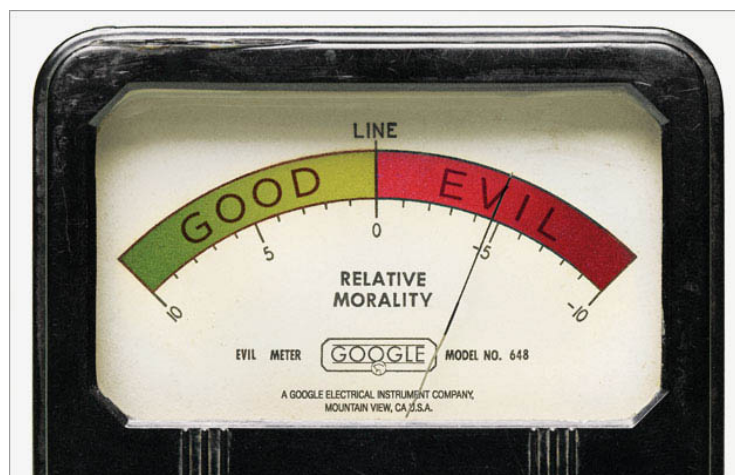
Usable Privacy



- Utility vs privacy: You want my password or a dead patient?
- How to prevent privacy messing up functionality?

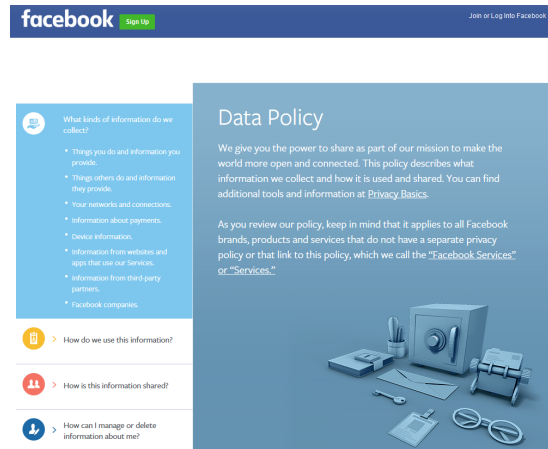
Koppel et al. Workarounds to computer access in healthcare organizations: You want my password or a dead patient? Studies in Health Technology and Informatics, 208:215220, 2015

Metrics and Measurement



- How much privacy is enough? Or too much?

Privacy Policies



- Nobody reads privacy policies
- Facebook privacy policy is longer than the US constitution

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/05/12/facebook-privacy-policy-s_n_574389.html

Westin Privacy Index

- Classify the public into three categories
- Fundamentalist (25% of Americans): Distrustful of organizations, refuses to give out personal information
- Pragmatist (55% of Americans): Weighs the value of consumer opportunities, aware of privacy risks
- Unconcerned (20% of Americans): Doesn't know what the "privacy fuss" is about

Westin. Privacy and Freedom. Administrative Law Review, 22(1):101–106, 1969

Privacy Surveys

- Why are user studies on privacy not convincing?
- Question: How would you feel about a mobile app that tracks your location wherever you go? [You cannot turn it off]
- How about: The app offers discount coupons based on your favorite locations
- How about: The app sends your location to third parties
... potentially malicious people might access your location
- Incentives change based on circumstances
- Privacy paradox: Reported vs actual behavior

Cultural Differences



Not so private



More private

Wisdom of Crowd

